for the creation of a separate post of Chief General Manager (Telecom.) for Arunachal Pradesh in the interest of efficiency; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The workload of Arunachal Pradesh does not meet the prescribed norms even for a Senior Time Scale Officer, much less the norms laid down for Chief General Manager. However, considering the special feature of the State, the management of telecom services has been recently upgraded to the level of Telecom District Manager in the Junior Administrative Grade.

Indigenous Research and Development Units of Telephone Exchanges

1597. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the indigenous research and development units of telephone exchanges are not capable to meet the increasing demand for telephones in the country;

(b) if so, what is present position of Research and Development units in this field; and

(c) by what time the country would be self-sufficient in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) For expansion of the Telecom network in the country, Telephone Exchanges of different capacities are required. Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), and the Research and Development Wing of M/s Indian Telephone Industries are engaged in the development of indigenous telephone exchanges. Indigenously designed telephone exchanges of small and medium capacity are in production/use in the country. Large capacity digital telephone exchanges is under development. This is likely to be completed by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

स्मारक डाक टिकट का जारी किया जाना

1598. **श्री सुशील कुमार संभाजीराव शिन्दे** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने कृपा करेंगे कि :—

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अहमदनगर किले के 500 वर्ष पूरे होने के कारण उपलक्ष में गठित समिति ने अहमदनगर किला और रानी चांदबीबी पर डाक टिकट जारी करने का अनुरोध किया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार उक्त डाक टिकटें कब तक जारी करेंगी ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) :

(क) तथा (ख) श्री यशवंत राव पाटील संसद सदस्य (लोक सभा) अहमदनगर किले के पांचवें शताब्दी वर्ष के अवसर पर और चांदबीबी पर स्मारक डाक टिकट जारी करने के संबंध में एक प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ था। यह प्रस्ताव 11-5-92 को फिलेटलिक सलाहकार समिति के समक्ष विचारार्थ रखा गया था और बाद में फिलेटलिक सलाहकार समिति की उप समिति ने इसकी जांच की थी तथापि, समिति ने इस प्रस्ताव की सिफारिश नहीं की।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

S.T.D. Facility for Polavaram

1599. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1214 given in the Rajya Sabha on the Ist December, 1992 and state :

(a) whether requests for early commissioning of STD facility for Polavaram have been received; and

(b) if so, steps proposed to be taken by Government to complete the work expeditiously ?